

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 07715 212104Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 JUSE-00 CA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCS-06 MCT-01 HA-05 /074 W
-----118842 220340Z /70

R 212035Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8877
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 7715

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ON THE HOME GUARD AND POLITICAL
PROTECTION OF CRIMINALS

PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY SPOKE TO THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
POLICE FEDERATION ON DECEMBER 20 AND USED THE OCCASION TO ATTEMPT TO
LIFT POLICE MORALE AND TO QUIET PUBLIC CONCERNS. IN ADDITION TO
REMINDING THE POLICE AUDIENCE OF THE SEVERAL NEW STEPS WHICH THE
GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO EASE THEIR TASK OF CONTROLLING CRIME (SEE
KINGSTON 7370), THE PRIME MINISTER MADE TWO OTHER NOTEWORTHY
REMARKS.

-- FIRST, SEEKING TO COUNTER CHARGES THAT MANY CRIMINALS ENJOY THE
PROTECTION OF POLITICIANS, MANLEY SAID, "IF YOU HAVE IT IN YOUR MIND
THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING PROTECTED, THE PROTECTION MUST
BE GOING ON IN YOUR HEADS BECAUSE IT DOES NOT COME WITH THE
AUTHORITY FROM ME AS PRIME MINISTER."..."I EXPECT YOU TO
PROCEED AGAINST CRIMINALS WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR."

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-- SECOND, REFERRING TO THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF CUBAN ASSISTANCE
FOR THE HOME GUARD (SEE KINGSTON 7409 AND 7631) AND RESPONDING TO
FREQUENTLY EXPRESSED FEAR THAT THE HOME GUARD WILL BECOME A "PEOPLES'
MILITIA", THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, "...THE DEFENCE FORCE (JDF) IS
GOING TO CONTINUE AND THE POLICE FORCE IS GOING TO CONTINUE -- AND
THAT IS FINAL. NOBODY, NOBODY BELIEVES, NOBODY IS SO NAIVE AS TO
BELIEVE THAT THE HOME GUARD CAN DO YOUR JOB. ALL IT SEEKS TO DO IS

TO TRY AND MOBILIZE...SOME ASSISTANCE (FOR) YOU..." THE PRIME
MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY THAT CUBAN ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN SOUGHT
BECAUSE "NO COUNTRY HAS DONE AS WELL AS CUBA BRINGING CRIME UNDER
CONTROL BY THE ASSISTANCE OF PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES."
IRVING

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Message Attributes

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